



Pride News...

Headteacher's Message...

Date - Issue 25.11.2022

Dear Parents / Carers

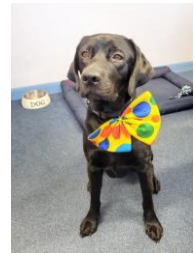
Really Wild Reading Festival

It was fantastic to be part of the Really Wild Reading festival organised by the Gloucester Schools Partnership. The children visited another local school for a reading workshop, where they learned how and why the author leading the workshop writes books. As well as this, we took part in virtual events and read lots of texts that are linked to the 'wild' throughout the week! Check out the winners later in the newsletter. We also had a school competition, where we are asked pupils to get caught reading in a wild location! We are hope the event continues to develop our pupils' passion for reading and will inspire them to also be effective writers themselves!



Children in Need

It was great to see so many children turning up to school in their spotty clothes for Children in Need. Nico even joined in! With the spotty clothes and the cake sale we made a £250 to donate towards this very worthwhile cause.



Upcoming Events

As we approach Christmas, we have several events that are coming up, so please take note of the following dates:

- Friday 2nd December – Friends of Willow Christmas Fair
- Thursday 8th December – Save the Children Christmas Jumper Day
- Thursday 8th December – Christmas Pantomime for the children
- Tuesday 13th December – KS1 Nativity
- Tuesday 13th December – KS2 Christmas Performance
- Wednesday 14th December – KS1 Nativity
- Wednesday 14th December – Christmas Dinner
- Thursday 15th December – KS2 Christmas Performance



Communication

As previously mentioned, we are no longer using text messages on Parent Mail (unless it is an emergency) and our preferred method of communication is Class Dojo. There are a few reasons for this, but our main driver is cost. In the current climate, with the cost-of-living crisis, we have to save costs wherever we can. Text messages cost us money and communication via Class Dojo is free. Can I also remind parents that when speaking to staff on the playground this should always be done in a respectful manner. Staff are working incredibly hard to provide the best possible education for your child. Being respectful to each other helps that working relationship to flourish.

Pete Hales



Pride News...

Acorn

We have had a busy couple of weeks in Acorn Class! We have continued with our 'Explorers' topic, which has involved exploring ourselves. We have used mirrors to paint self-portraits. We have also found out about different types of homes and how Tuffley has changed over time. This week, we are going to explore different habitats, such as The Arctic and the desert!

In Maths, we have just started learning about repeated patterns, We have been copying them and continuing them.

We loved writing our own stories during the Really Wild Reading Festival! We cannot believe we are real authors!

Birch

Term 2 has been a very busy and productive term so far! We enjoyed taking part in the Really Wild Reading Festival last week! Philip Ardagh was very funny when we listened to his talk about his stories. In Geography, we have been deepening our knowledge about the UK and its countries.

We learnt about famous physical and human features in each country. In English, we are writing instructions about how to catch Santa. We have had some great ideas so far! In Maths, we have started our multiplication and division unit. As a class, we have been learning about equal groups and how these can be represented using a multiplication calculation! Birch class are very excited to start our nativity rehearsals this week!

Ash

In Ash class, we have been using our fine motor skills to sew. We created Christmas baubles and even decorated them with bells and beads. The children's sewing skills impressed the adults tremendously.

We have also been practicing for our Nativity and the children have loved learning their actions and those who have lines have been amazing. They have worked so hard to learn all of their songs, we can't wait to show you what we have been creating.

Chestnut

This week we have been reading the book 'How to catch Santa' by Jean Reagan. They children have loved thinking up their own ideas of how to catch Santa and questions that they would ask Santa if they ever got to meet him.

We also got to make amazing Dragons eyes using wool and tooth-picks during outdoor learning



Pride News...

Elm

The children have now started to learn to use columns to complete addition and subtraction questions in Maths. We have had lots of fun using place value counters and using our prior knowledge of place value of 4-digit numbers.

In English, we have begun our Instruction writing unit based around the book 'How to catch Santa'. The children have been working hard to master subordinate clauses in preparation for this.

We have now finished our History project by evaluating the impact the Norman invasion had on Britain in 1066. We were really impressed by how much they had remembered and how they were able to apply this in their evaluations.

Practices for the Christmas Play are now well under way and our class are enjoying choreographing our dance.

Maple

Maple Class have been working hard this week. We have been continuing our work on multiplying whole numbers and decimal numbers by 10,100 and 1000.

In Music, we have learnt what a fugue is and tried to create our own using body percussion.

We have also experimented with clay and paper casting in Art. We are looking forward to painting them next week.

Oak

We have been busy in Oak Class. In Maths, we have been learning about angles in a circle, on a straight line, in a triangle, in a quadrilateral and in a regular polygon! We have showed excellence in this area.

In English, we wrote instructions on how to catch Santa. We worked hard to join up our writing and use parenthesis in our work.

We have also been busy practicing our Christmas dance and learning our lines for the Christmas performance. We can't wait to show you!



Pride News...

PRIDE AWARDS!

These children have shown what it means to be:

- ★ **Be Positive**
- ★ **Be Respectful**
- ★ **Be Individual**
- ★ **Be Determined**
- ★ **Be Excellent**

PRIDE Award WINNERS...

Acorn – George & Linda
Ash – TJ & Christopher
Birch – Michael & Archie-Thomas
Chestnut – Franklin & Jacob
Elm – Alfie & Winter
Maple – Lola & Jasmine
Oak – Liberty & Isaac

PRIDE Champions

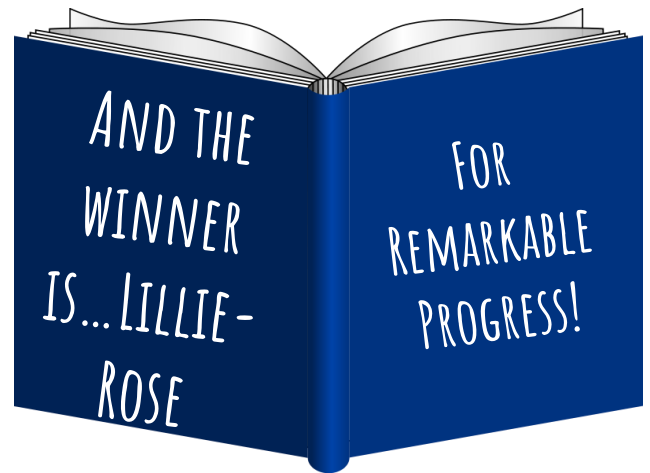
LIBERTY (OAK CLASS)





STAR READER...

WILLOW'S STAR READER SPECIAL SURPRISE AWARD



Each week teachers will nominate a star reader from their class. A star reader is someone who has shown progress in reading, shown enjoyment of reading someone who has overcome difficulties in reading or shares their love of reading with the class or a friend. At Willow Primary Academy, we know the key to knowledge is reading and we want to inspire a lifelong love of reading! Willow has a special surprise book for the Super Star Reader to take home, keep, read and enjoy!



Pride News...

Attendance Superstars

This week: **88.36%**

Our year so far: **92.94%**

ATTENDANCE MATTERS



gg98860872 www.gograph.com

| Class | Attendance |
|----------|------------|
| Acorn | 80.57% |
| Ash | 92.92% |
| Birch | 91.67% |
| Chestnut | 87.65% |
| Elm | 93.05% |
| Maple | 92.35% |
| Oak | 93.09% |



18 OR MORE DAYS

Excused and unexcused absences represent lost time in the classroom and lost opportunities to learn.

- Missing just one day every two weeks can add up to 18 days in a year. Absences add up before you even know it.



10 TO 17 DAYS

Students who are absent an average of 15 days a year miss a year's worth of school before their senior year.

- When students miss a day of school it actually puts them two days behind their classmates.



9 OR FEWER ABSENCES

Students with good attendance generally achieve higher grades and enjoy school more.

- Children benefit and make the most of their educational opportunities if they attend school regularly and on time.





Pride News...

Dates for Your Diary

Term Dates for 2022 – 2023

Term 1 from Wednesday 7th September 2022 to Thursday 20th October 2022

Term 2 from Monday 31st October 2022 to Friday 16th December 2022

Term 3 from Wednesday 4th January 2023 to Thursday 16th February 2023

Term 4 from Monday 27th February 2023 to Friday 31st April 2023

Term 5 from Tuesday 18th April 2023 to Friday 26th May 2023

Term 6 from Monday 5th June 2023 to Tuesday 25th July 2023

School Events

Thursday 1st December 2022 – Ash & Birch Christmas multi-skills activity at Oxstalls Sports Park

Monday 5th December 2022 - Maple Class Assembly (parents of Maple Class are invited)

Thursday 8th December – Christmas Jumper Day £1 donation to Save the Children

Tuesday 13th and Wednesday 14th December – EYFS / KS1 Nativity (more information to follow)

Tuesday 13th December – KS2 Christmas Performance (more information to follow)

Wednesday 14th December 2022 – Christmas lunch.

Thursday 15th December 2022 – KS2 Christmas Performance (more information to follow)

Tuesday 10th January 2023 – Young Voices (more information to follow)

Monday 30th January 2023 - Elm Class Assembly (parents of Elm Class are invited)

Thursday 23rd March 2023 – Screening vision and Measuring height and weight of children in Reception and Year 6.

Friends of Willow Events:

Friday 2nd December 2022 - Christmas Fair

You can now book a time slot to visit Santa at the Christmas Fair, please book at reception
£1.50 per child

Thursday 8th December 2022 - Christmas Pantomime performance



Pride News...



Friends of Willow Christmas Fair

Friday 2nd December

3:15pm – 5:30pm



- Christmas stalls
- Games
- Gifts for children to buy for parents and wrap
- Christmas activities
- Refreshments
- Santa Grotto
- Gifts





Pride News...



**CHRISTMAS
HALF TERM CLUB**
19TH - 23RD DECEMBER

Longlevens Infant School
Paygrove Lane, Longlevens
Gloucester, GL2 0BG

For ages 4 - 11 years old

Join us at Mrs Hamblin's Little Artists!

We have a week full of festive fun for every Little Artist!

Monday 19th - Christmas baubles and treat pots

Tuesday 20th - Christmas plates, wreaths and decorations

Wednesday 21st - Large Christmas canvas bags, clay gingerbread house

Thursday 22nd - Christmas baubles, plates and clay decorations

Friday 23rd - Christmas mugs, angels and reindeer treat pots

Book online using the booking link in Mrs Hamblin's Little Artists Facebook page.

We look forward to seeing you!



Pride News...



We pride ourselves on the feedback we receive from our clients and acting upon this to improve our service and commitment to you and your school, to provide a quality food offer to the pupils we feed. We would appreciate you taking a few minutes of your time to complete our short survey. (which takes on average 3 minutes to complete) We will be reviewing feedback after the 12th December 2022 when the survey closes, thank you in advance for completing our survey, please follow the following link:

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/RS5CBRM>

GCC - Parent Survey 2022



FRIENDS OF WILLOW PRIMARY ACADEMY

CHRISTMAS JUMPERS

LOTS OF US HAVE CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS JUMPERS AT HOME THAT WON'T FIT THIS YEAR. WE'D LOVE TO FIND THEM HAPPY NEW HOMES!

BRING IN YOUR UNWANTED CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS JUMPERS AND DROP THEM INTO THE BOX IN THE SCHOOL RECEPTION OR GIVE TO YOUR CHILDREN'S TEACHER.

Jumpers will be available for £2 each from the school office up until Christmas lunch and jumper day on the 8th December. All money from the sells will go towards the school's Christmas activities and any remaining jumpers will be kept until next year.